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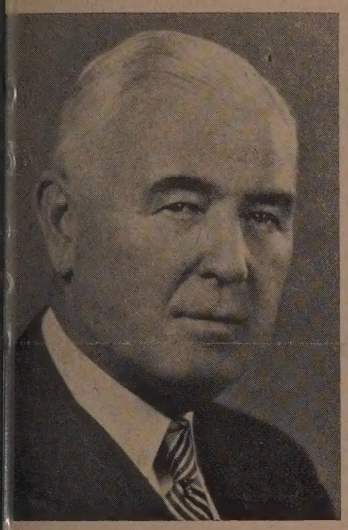
OF RELIGION

9th Year (First Issue Aug. 1, 1851) SEPTEMBER, 1949 No. 7

ANNUAL CONFERENCE MEETING --- OCTOBER 26 to 28



Rev. Fred Field Goodsell, D. D., who has just retired as Executive Vice-President of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, after 20 years at the post. He has been intimately acquainted with our four or five hundred missionaries and with many hundreds of our pastors. He has made it his business to understand the problems faced by our missionary cause even in the most remote stations, and he likewise kept abreast of the progress of our churches at home. His boyhood was spent in California in the parsonages of our home missionary churches. He is in California visiting his mother, our beloved Mrs. Dennis Goodsell. He will be in our area for several weeks and throughout the sessions of the Conference, giving one of the major addresses and leading one of the seminars.

CAZADERO'S FIFTH SUMMER

In twelve camps, a total of about 750 campers shared the privilege of a week at Congregational Cazadero this summer, varying from the informal adult fellowship of Family Camp No. 1 to the fast-moving activities of the 157 delegates to the State Pilgrim Fellowship Camp. The latter camp was the largest group ever entertained at Cazadero.

Among the improvements discovered by the 1949 campers is a new walk-in refrigerator, operated by a 10,000-watt generator. It permits storage of meat, ice cream, and other foods, increasing efficiency of our operations greatly. The generator is housed in a new log cabin, across the ballfield from the ranch house.

Evacuation at the lower end of the orchard is nearly five feet deep—in places—and begins to indicate the outlines of a new swimming pool.

West Bay youth and parents, under the leadership of Mrs. Grace Bielar, have canned over 600 gallons of fruit for the camp, with fruit and labor donated.

Present indications are that the program for the 93rd annual meeting of the Conference will rank high among all the programs in our recent history. While it is the 93rd meeting of the Conference and its predecessor, the General Association, it is being observed as the Centennial meeting since Congregational work began in California 100 years ago. For that reason and because of its superior facilties, it is appropriate that it be held in our mother church, the First Church of San Francisco. The dates will be October 26, 27, and 28.

Our two Centennial Churches will be in the limelight with Rev. Torrance Phelps of Sacramento and Dr. McCormack of San Francisco First using as their themes, "The Congregational Way of Our Day" and "The Congregational Way for the Days to Come."

Rev. William E. McCormack, who began his ministry at First Congregational Church of San Francisco on September first, and who will be the pastor of the entertaining church for the annual meeting of the Northern California Congregational Conference.

DOING OUR PART?

In order that work with the Displaced Persons program may be expedited more fully at the Conference level, the Social Action Committee has set up a Displaced Persons Resettlement sub-committee under the chairmanship of Rev. Williston Wirt, pastor of North Church, Berkeley.

According to the incomplete records of our Conference effort so far, the following churches have indicated interest and activity in this endeavor: Eden Congregational, Hayward; Palo Alto; Redwood City; San Jose; Mayflower Church, Pacific Grove; Berkeley, First; Cedarville; and Senator Harry Drobish of the Oroville Church who asked that his assurance be credited to denominational quota.

Nationally the time goal for the 1200 assurances is December 25, 1949. All churches are asked to work with the following thought in mind: **"1200 assurances by December 25, Congregational Christian's Christmas gift to the Free World."**

The Centennial will also be emphasized at the closing banquet with a repetition of the pageant showing the organization of the First Church which was presented in Portsmouth Square on the anniversary of the church on July 31. There will be three brief addresses looking toward our future—Nationally and in California, by Rev. Douglas Horton of New York, Superintendent Nelson C. Dreier of Southern California, and Superintendent Harley H. Gill.

The Conference will have as its guests throughout the meeting Dr. and Mrs. Douglas Horton from New York. Dr. Horton, as indicated elsewhere in this issue, will give four addresses: the opening address Wednesday afternoon, at the men's luncheon on Thursday noon, the platform meeting Thursday night, and at the closing banquet. Mrs. Horton, who this summer retired as president of Wellesley College, who was the head of the WAVES during the war, and who is now vice-president of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, will be the speaker for the women's luncheon.

Rev. Donald F. Gaylord of Martinez will be the chaplain. On the first afternoon the staff members will direct a Cavalcade of Congregationalism which in brief, vivid, and dramatic form will give the story of the many officers, committees, and departments of our Conference work.

There will be a series of seminars covering a total of three hours, one-half on each of the two mornings of the Conference, in which delegates will choose in accordance with their own interest. The seminars will be under the direction of committees of the Conference, including Social Action, Evangelism and Devotional Life, Town and Country, Our Christian World Mission, Religious Education, and Visual Aids.

The ministers who are on the firing line in our new projects will bring to us the thrilling stories of the establishing of new churches.

The Committee on Arrangements consists of Mr. Ralph H. Anderson, Mrs. Wilfred Sidebottom, Mr. Herbert Hilker, Rev. William E. McCormack, and staff members, Buckham, Meyer, and Gill. Dr. and Mrs. Robert W. Inglis and Rev. James H. Woodruff gave valuable help at the early meetings of the committee.

OUR NEW MODERATOR

With the removal of Moderator Robert W. Inglis to Southern California, Vice Moderator Ralph H. Anderson steps into his shoes and becomes the Moderator for the Centennial meeting of the Northern California Congregational Conference to be held in San Francisco October 26 to 28. Mr. Anderson is also the moderator of the Bay Association for the current year. He has been a member of the Laymen's Fellowship and of the Centennial Fund Executive Committee. He is treasurer of the Eden Church at Hayward. This means that the Conference will have had laymen as moderators two successive years. Mr. Peirce Coombs was the moderator for the 1948 session.

Rev. Douglas Horton, D. D., minister and secretary of the General Council of Congregational Christian Churches, who for 11 years has been our national leader, not only has given spiritual guidance and inspiration to our American Congregational fellowship, but at the recent International Council was made Moderator for the coming five year period. He has been chairman of the American section of the World Council of Churches. More than this, he is the friend and counselor of churches and brother ministers. He will be headline speaker for the annual meeting of our State Conference, appearing four times on the program.

CHANGES

Someone has said that the only permanent thing about our civilization is that it changes. That might well be said of Northern California Congregationalism. Beginning with the first of May the following Northern California churches have secured or have called new ministers. Some announcements have already appeared and others will be found elsewhere in this issue.

Antioch: Rev. Herbert Dimock; Benicia: Mr. C. Theodore Gustafson; Berkeley, Arlington: Rev. J. Hood Snavely; Berkeley, North: Rev. Williston Wirt; Crockett; Rev. C. George Kuhn; Elk Grove: Rev. Fred W. Gross; Fairfax: Mr. James Montgomery; Ferndale,: Rev. Robert W. Lewis; Guerneville: Rev. Frank E. Carlson; Oakland, Japanese: Rev. Hiroshi Izumi; San Francisco, First: Rev. William E. McCormack; Sonoma: Rev. Olan A. Terrell; Lodi, Ebenezer: Rev. Carl F. Brost.

In addition, Oakland, Plymouth and Oroville are now seeking ministers.

W. B. M. P. DISSOLVES

At a meeting of the Women's Board of Missions of the Pacific, held in Berkeley on September 7, final disposition of assets and a bequest was made and the corporation voted to dissolve. Miss Frances B. Clapp and Dr. Fred Field Goodsell were guests. Hereafter the work and interest of this historic Board will be completely merged with the A.B.C.F.M.

The Pacific

Established 1851
Entered as Second Class Matter at the San Francisco Post Office

Subscriptions, 25 cents in advance

Published monthly (except July and August) by the Northern California Congregational Conference, 1164 Phelan Building, 760 Market Street, San Francisco 2, California.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized September 11, 1937.

Address all communications and checks to THE PACIFIC, 1164 Phelan Building, San Francisco 2.

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LABOR, PRAY, GIVE

We have been asked to do better. The need of the world is greater. The cost of carrying on is larger. But we are not holding our own. 1949 gifts are supposed to exceed regular benevolence giving plus CWVR of a year ago. The totals show an increase over regular benevolence giving of $16,500, but thus far they are $1,323 less than regular benevolences plus CWVR of a year ago. Four months remain. Let us remind each other of the great opportunity and the responsibilities that are ours. Let us labor and pray and give.

	Jan. 11 to Aug. 31, 1948	Jan. 11 to Aug. 31, 1949
Alameda	$ 874.94	$ 755.67
Alturas	142.07	79.94
Angels Camp	100.00	321.33
Antioch	134.98	92.74
Auburn	188.75	182.16
Benicia	52.00	15.50
Berkeley, Arlington	61.94	272.22
First	6,033.16	6,896.51
North	619.75	898.40
Northbrae		276.17
So. Com'nity	307.53	606.12
Biola		47.68
Campbell	365.36	408.25
Cedarville	44.75	46.43
Cloverdale	128.10	101.25
Cotati	50.25	64.50
Crockett	56.28	58.92
Dinuba	.66	2.00
Eagleville		7.36
Elk Grove	14.25	33.64
Etna	17.64	50.23
Eureka	334.84	843.79
Fairfax	37.50	175.00
Ferndale	197.41	282.06
Fowler		125.00
Fresno, First	750.00	2,161.45
Japanese	25.00	
Pilgrim	500.00	
Zion	41.14	66.08
Glen Ellen	50.00	34.23
Guerneville	25.00	36.95
Hayward		1,461.40
Kenwood	25.63	74.03
Likely		7.13
Lodi, Ebenezer		299.30
First	1,952.00	2,416.52
Loleta	7.00	26.11
Loomis	200.00	100.00
Martinez	733.86	1,097.61
Modesto		64.06
Murphys	100.00	
Niles	50.00	113.50
Oakland, Bethany		71.57
First	3,520.00	3,947.83
Fruitvale	72.40	67.41
Japanese	80.00	30.00
New Pilgrim	76.00	76.94
Plymouth	1005.92	1,795.28
Orinda	461.35	967.80
Oroville	463.10	174.85
Pacific Grove	175.00	138.26
Palo Alto	934.00	2,768.13
Paradise	450.00	416.50
Parlier	20.00	10.00
Penngrove	34.13	39.55
Pescadero	10.00	
Petaluma	410.00	1,055.00
Pittsburg	198.82	222.66
Port Chicago	103.94	61.10
Porterville	800.00	1,404.00
Redwood City	423.56	531.84
Reedley, Finnish	15.00	15.00
Rio Vista	50.00	80.00
Ripon	187.02	277.39
Sacramento, Pioneer	690.00	1,337.00
Sierra Arden	51.48	161.33
Salida	60.10	26.53
San Carlos	450.00	720.00
San Francisco, Bethany		
Miss. Park	175.75	137.20
Calvary		30.00
First	279.65	843.42
Ocean View	50.00	100.00
Park Presidio	245.90	368.62
Sanger		66.33
San Jose	767.00	1,401.89
San Leandro	82.67	249.41
San Lorenzo		65.75
San Mateo	875.00	2,350.00
San Rafael	10.00	44.70
Santa Cruz	264.00	1,054.87
Santa Rosa	78.00	113.52
Saratoga	378.91	273.34
Sebastopol	220.70	314.84
Sonoma	111.38	59.01
Soquel	158.10	92.95
Stockton	540.85	1,272.67
Suisun	75.00	82.50
Sunnyvale	57.43	215.65
Sunol		7.79
Tulare	1,144.00	1,405.00
Weaverville	50.00	100.00
Woodside	11.50	29.00
Reno, Nevada	600.77	540.12
Miscellaneous and individual	1,815.40	1,264.12
TOTALS	$32,955.62	$49,479.91

NEW PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP LEADERS

Here it she list of new officers for our Conference Pilgrim Fellowship, elected at Cazadero during the P. F. Camp:

President: Jim Price, Winthrop League, Berkeley
Vice-President: Jane Fowler, Mill Valley
Secretary: Janet Nelson, San Carlos
Treasurer: Pat Poe, Oakland, Plymouth
Adviser: Mrs. Scott Haymond, Berkeley, First
Past President: Jeanette Desin, Berkeley
"Light" Editor: Doug MacKenzie, Sebastopol
Assistant Editor: Jim Stowers, Oakland, Bayview
"Light" Business Manager: Dave Connett, Piedmont
Financial Secretary: Barbara Holaday, Oakland, Plymouth
Camp Commissioner: Bobette Thompson, Santa Rosa
Personal Action: Pat Royston, Fresno, First
Missionary Action: Doug Hubbard, Oakland, Plymouth
Interdenominational Action: Dave Freeman, Mill Valley
Social Action: Sara Mason, San Jose
Recreation Commissioner: Bill Freeman, Reno
Foreign Fruit Project: Al Klyce, Mill Valley
Historian: Wilma Heckenlaible, Lodi, First
Literature Chairman: Martha Taylor, Berkeley, North
Midwinter Chairman: Helen Alexander, Antioch
Member-at-large: Joy Dirstine, San Mateo
North Central President: Scott Chilcott, Sacramento, Sierra Arden
South Central President: Wilbur Sims, Salida
San Joaquin President: (to be elected)
Upper Bay President: (to be elected)
Redwood President: Rod MacKenzie, Sebastopol
East Bay President: Bill Bridges, Berkeley, First
West Bay President: Amy MacArthur, San Carlos
Junior Hi Chairman: Joanne Arbuckle, Sacramento, Sierra Arden

Plymouth House

For the new year Bruce McKenzie and Jeanette Desin, former presidents of the State Pilgrim Fellowship, will be the president and vice-president of Plymouth House of the University of California. The secretary will be Christine Haymond, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Scott Haymond. Plymouth House did not shut its doors during the summer and was well represented at Student Camp at Cazadero, and also at a special camp on the Labor Day weekend.

NOTICE!

According to latest word from the allocations committee of Our Christian World Mission, moneys given to CARE, CROP, CCSC Food Parcels, Christian World Service, projects sponsored by CWS, e.g. Heifers for Relief, Seeds for Reconstruction, etc., may receive apportionment credit. The exact method of channeling such gifts and receiving credit will be published later.

CHEERS!

Mr. C. T. Gustafson, pastor at Guerneville, and Rev. J. P. Senter of Eureka, attended the Pastors' School at LaForet in Colorado. Both reported a most interesting and helpful experience. Rev. Stanley U. North, the director of the school, sent a word of congratulation to Supt. Harley H. Gill because of the fine quality of our northern California representatives. Cheers for Gustafson and Senter!

Mr. Herbert Hilker of San Mateo, the first president of the Laymen's Fellowship of Northern California. He was elected at the retreat at Cazadero which was held on June 4 and 5. Hereafter the laymen's affairs will be under the direction of an executive committee representing each Association rather than a commission appointed by the Conference itself. Thus the laymen's work follows the pattern of the Federation of Congregational Women and the Pilgrim Fellowship in being a self-supporting, self-directing organization. The retreat at Cazadero was one of deep spiritual inspiration and heartwarming fellowship. Mr. Hilker is planning a laymen's dinner in connection with the annual meeting of the Northern California Conference, which will be held on Thursday night, October 27.

CENTENNIAL FUND

Our friends constantly inquire, "How is the Centennial Fund coming along?" On the last day of August a total of $34,155.00 in cash had been received, and there was outstanding in unpaid pledges $9,967.97, making a total of $44,122.97.

It was hoped that by this date a larger figure could be reported. However, a number of churches have postponed their appeal until autumn. The campaign for the Century Club will be pushed to the limit. The larger givers, who have been approached once and will be approached twice more, will give a mighty lift. Let no one say that the campaign has failed of its goal. We are going on until it is reached.

BERKELEY, CHINESE—Dr. Ho Yam-tong served as one of the faculty members for the East Bay Pilgrim Fellowship Camp at Cazadero, making a very significant contribution to the program. The number of young people graduating from high school, from college, and from graduate schools in this church makes a very impressive list, including an M.D., a Doctor of Philosophy, a Master of Arts, and Bachelors of Science.

OAKLAND, NEW PILGRIM—During the summer the Church School has been using the "All Aboard for Adventure" records. The youth delegates to Cazadero were commissioned. Twelve Bibles were awarded and thirty pins given for excellent attendance in the Sunday School. A barbecue pit and volley ball and horseshoes facilities have been installed in the lot adjacent to the church.

FRESNO, JAPANESE — This church was represented in the Japanese Congregational Conference in Los Angeles by Rev. Norio Ozaki, the pastor, and five delegates. A Nisei women's fellowship was organized in June. The church participated in the planning of the Japanese Young People's Conference at Lake Tahoe and also in the Pilgrim Fellowship retreat at Lake Sequoia.

PETALUMA — Student Summer Service workers assisted Rev. Herbert C. Gans in a house to house canvass of a new section of Petaluma. It revealed that already the church was in vital contact with most of the people of the neighborhood who would be interested. During the summer the church lost by death one of its beloved members, Mrs. George P. McNear, Sr.

SAN CARLOS—As the new church building takes form it creates more and more admiration. A great step forward has been made in calling a director of religious education, Miss Elizabeth Helz, who has been supervisor of released time work in Hayward and was former director of religious education in a Wisconsin church. Congratulations, San Carlos!

SACRAMENTO, OAK PARK—Sixty-six children were enrolled in the Vacation Church School. Two Student Summer Service workers assisted. Rev. and Mrs. Theodore Dunlap were on the faculty of the Central and San Joaquin area Pilgrim Fellowship camp and the Central area Junior High camp. The church was on the air over station KROY on August 7.

PORT CHICAGO — During June about ten people were received into church membership by letter and confession. Rev. Gifford M. Webster served as dean of boys at the Upper Bay Pilgrim Fellowship Camp. The church has completed the payment of a long-standing debt arising from the building of the social hall a number of years ago.

ALTURAS — During the summer this church was supplied by John Burleson, student at Pacific School of Religion, giving Rev. and Mrs. William Moll Case a much needed holiday. A vacation church school was conducted with a considerable number of children having perfect attendance.

MARTINEZ — Over 160 children were registered in the Daily Vacation Church School. The celebration of the 75th anniversary of the church was in every way worthy of the occasion. Rev. Donald F. Gaylord is pastor.

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES ON THE JOB

MODESTO — The Northern California Conference from its Centennial funds and the Congregational Church Building Society, together with the membership of the new Modesto church, have worked out a plan to provide adequate housing for the minister, Rev. Elmo D. Wolfe, and his family, and at the same time furnish a meeting place for worship and church activities. A new parsonage is being erected, which will be a modern, attractive six-room house. A large part of the labor will be donated. It will be of pumicestone blocks with concrete floors and radiant heating. This will release the building purchased with the property, which will require some additional work but will provide several rooms for Sunday school and worship purposes. Mr. Wolfe has been taking an active interest in the foreign fruit project, and was director of the State Pilgrim Fellowship Camp. He conducted radio devotions for one week, and, with the assistance of two Student Summer service workers, dug up thirty new families in the area indicating interest in the new development. Two weeks' vacation at a mountain lake was squeezed in. Hearty endorsement has been given by the Church Building Department to the preliminary plans for the development of church buildings.

CROCKETT — Rev. C. George Kuhn, who has been doing graduate work at Pacific School of Religion, has been called to the pastorate and is on the field. Mr. Kuhn had pastorates in the middle west and then served as missionary of our German speaking churches in Argentina. While at Pacific School of Religion he worked with the First Methodist Church of Oakland. He suffered a painful automobile accident during the summer, but is able to carry forward the work at Crockett with vigor and effectiveness.

OAKLAND, JAPANESE — Beginning the first of August, Rev. Hiroshi Izumi became pastor of this church. Prior to the evacuation of the Japanese from the Pacific coast area Mr. Izumi was pastor of our church at Santa Barbara. Since leaving the relocation center in Arizona he has been attending Andover Newton Theological School in Massachusetts. Mrs. Izumi is a very effective church worker in her own right. Together they will make a splendid team of leaders for our Oakland church.

LOOMIS — Different organizations within the church, including the Ladies' Aid and the Pilgrim Fellowship as well as certain individuals, have taken Century Club memberships to help make up the $1000 which Rev. Hendrik Martynse, the pastor, has undertaken to raise for the Centennial. On Mother's Day a beautiful Bible was presented to the church as a memorial. Mr. and Mrs. Martynse on their vacation covered 12,000 miles in travel, but returned to begin the fall work in September.

FAIRFAX — Immediately following his graduation at Pacific School of Religion, Mr. James Montgomery was called as pastor. Mr. Montgomery has had experience in summer work in Colorado and during seminary days was associated with the First Congregational Church of Oakland. Fairfax is responding to his leadership and has requested the Committee on Ministerial Standing to examine him looking toward ordination.

SAN FRANCISCO, FIRST — The centennial of the establishing of the church was observed on July 31. Rev. James H. Woodruff preached an appropriate sermon at the eleven o'clock hour, and in the afternoon at Portsmouth Square, near the site of the little schoolhouse in which the church was organized, a pageant was presented depicting that event. It was written and produced under the direction of Mrs. Anna Blake Mezquida. Following this, greetings were brought by civic, interdenominational, and other Congregational bodies, and an anniversary sermon was preached by Supt. Harley H. Gill.

Dr. Woodruff closed his work with the church at the end of July. During August the pulpit was supplied by Rev. Torrance Phelps of Sacramento, Rev. Raymond Walker of Portland, Rev. Ed Cunnigham of Santa Cruz, and Rev. M. J. Minkler, a member of the church. A beautiful parsonage has been purchased, and Rev. William E. McCormack and his family took over as of September first. Announcement of his call appeared in the June issue of The Pacific. The whole Northern California fellowship will carry this church and its minister in its heart and prayers.

OROVILLE—Rev. Maurice L. de Vries has spent several weeks in New England this summer, and has returned to Oroville only to present his resignation and to close up the work of his very successful pastorate in that field. Mr. de Vries will be a member of the staff of the new Edgewood Church in New Haven, Conn., which is the result of a union of two churches. This new church will relocate in a rapidly growing area combining the resources of two older churches but meeting a great new opportunity. He will close his work at the end of September, beginning in New Haven on October first.

OAKLAND, FIRST — On Youth Sunday the young people participated in the early service in the sanctuary, with the junior choir furnishing music. At the 11:00 o'clock service twenty-five united with the church. About twenty boys and girls attended various camps at Cazadero. During the vacation of Rev. Clarence Reidenbach the pulpit was supplied by Rev. John W. Rahill of Berkeley and Rev. S. Maurice Watts of London. The minister is beginning his seventeenth year with this church.

ANTIOCH—Rev. Herbert Dimock began his ministry on August first. Congregations have been good and the church is nearing completion of the remodeling of the social hall, which doubles the capacity of that much needed room. A house for the minister was rented and redecorated. A planning committee is being set up to study the whole situation and make recommendations to the church as to the lines of advance which should be undertaken.

LODI, FIRST—One of the four Vacation Church Schools to be held in the city took place in this church, with several of the Sunday School teachers serving as instructors. Six boys attended the Central Area Camp at Cazadero and reported at the Sunday morning church service following. Two Pilgrim Fellowship young people worked in the Foreign Fruit Project and attended Pilgrim Fellowship Camp. While Rev. A. R. Boone, pastor, was on vacation, the parsonage was given an exterior coat of paint.

FERNDALE—Following the resignation of Rev. C. H. Hudson and upon learning of the anticipated removal of the Methodist pastor, the Congregational and Methodist churches of Ferndale opened negotiations with each other, inviting the Methodist and Congregational superintendents to confer with them. It was unanimously and enthusiastically voted that the churches should federate at once, calling a Congregational minister and using the Methodist property. The Federated Church has called Rev. Robert W. Lewis of Baxter, Iowa, who has accepted the call and will be on the job by the end of September. Mr. Lewis is a graduate of Milton University, Baltimore, and of Western Theological Seminary in Pittsburgh, with special courses at Boston University. He served churches in Lowell, Mass., and Pittsburgh and Johnstown, Pa., before moving to Iowa. This Federated Church now faces a great opportunity and with much greater strength than either church was able to muster by itself.

SONOMA — For a good many years there have been discussions and even planned attempts to bring about a federation of the Congregational and Methodist Churches in this community. With Ferndale leading the way this spring, Sonoma followed, and as a result the worship services and Sunday Schools have been combined. The Methodist denomination has appointed Rev. Olan A. Terrell. He is a graduate of the Nebraska Wesleyan University and from Iliff School of Theology of Denver. He was ordained in 1943. He served churches in Denver, Colorado, and in Nebraska, and more recently in Williams, California, for one year prior to coming to Sonoma.

GUERNEVILLE — Rev. Frank E. Carlson has accepted the pastorate of this church, beginning as of September first, and is already on the field, replacing Mr. C. T. Gustafson who resigned earlier in the summer. Dr. Carlson has a long and distinguished record in our Congregational fellowship, having been pastor of a number of outstanding churches and serving as superintendent of the Oregon Conference for several years. More recently he has been comptroller at Pacific School of Religion.

SACRAMENTO, SIERRA ARDEN — Some additional help was secured from the Church Building Society, and the new building is now being used by various groups and will be completed probably in another month. Sunday School attendance has kept up well and church services have continued to be held under a tree. Reverends Mary McKee Chester and Joseph Chester have been of indispensable help in our youth work at Cazadero.

LODI, EBENEZER—Rev. Carl F. Brost of Portland, Oregon has accepted the call from this church and will begin on October first. The pews for the new church will have been secured and will be dedicated the day the minister is installed. The new three-bedroom parsonage is all but completed.

REDWOOD CITY—Rev. Gale W. Engle has been working on a Master of Arts thesis at Stanford during his vacation. The church is negotiating for a new site for future use in the very rapidly developing section to the south and west of the city.

BERKELEY, ARLINGTON—Rev. Herbert Dimock closed his active ministry of the church at the end of June, and received very substantial gifts in appreciation of the fine work he had done there in the years since before the church was organized. Almost immediately the church called as its pastor Rev. J. Hood Snavely, who had just returned from China where he had been pastor of the English speaking Protestant church of Shanghai. Mr. Snavely is a graduate of Findley College, Ohio, and Yale Divinity School. During seminary days he served as assistant at the United Church of Bridgeport, Conn., and later as chaplain in the United States Navy. He has taken hold of the work at Arlington with great vigor and the congregations during the month of August have filled the auditorium comfortably. On August 18 he was speaker at the meeting of the Federation of Congregational Women of Northern California.

OAKLAND, PLYMOUTH — Rev. Robert W. Inglis, who has been pastor of this church for ten years, resigned early in June to accept the pastorate of the Congregational Church at Whittier, California, beginning September first. Dr. Inglis has had a notable ministry in Plymouth Church and has been regarded as a leader in our Conference, which elected him as its moderator last October, and the Protectant forces in the city of Oakland, where he was ever the champion of minority groups and others who needed to gain the ear of the church and church people. During this pastorate he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity in recognition of the high quality of his leadership. He leaves with the regrets, the affection, and the best wishes of his church and of all our Northern California churches.

BENICIA—Mr. C. T. Gustafson, recently of Guerneville, has accepted the pastorate of this church and began work on August 15. Following the resignation of Rev. Elmo D. Wolfe the church has been served very acceptably by Rev. A. Ray Flick, who has gone into business in Benicia. The church feels that the time has again come when it must have full-time service and is looking forward with real enthusiasm to Mr. Gustafson's leadership.

ELK GROVE—Rev. Fred W. Gross will serve this church, although continuing his residence in Lodi. He has been appointed as community counselor for the City of Lodi and the Lodi schools, beginning September first. He is looking forward to his work with keen interest, feeling that in one sense the City of Lodi is his congregation, and the Elk Grove parish will keep him in direct contact with the work of the church and the denomination.

BERKELEY, FIRST — Rev. Vere V. Loper has been spending his vacation at Fallen Leaf Lake, pulpit duties being cared for by Associate Minister, Rev. David L. Evans. As usual, Winthrop League had a large representation at the East Bay Pilgrim Fellowship Camp at Cazadero.

BERKELEY, SOUTH COMMUNITY—The largest vacation school in its recent history was held by this church, with assistance from two Student Summer Service workers. The enrollment was 105. The closing program and exhibits were excellent. Rev. John C. Mickle, Jr., is pastor.

WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

Mrs. E. B. Kientz, President, Correspondent pro tem

Vacations are almost over, so most of the regular Federation members were present, and some new ones, at the regular meeting, August 18, at First Church, Oakland. Those who are still away missed a wonderful meeting.

The morning was given over to reports of the Missionary Education Movement (M.E.M.) Conference at Asilomar, August 5-10. It was a fine conference with the largest attendance in the last fifteen or twenty years. Nineteen of our Northern California Congregational churches were represented by some 48 delegates.

Mrs. George W. Ludlow, our Home Field Secretary, reported on the home study theme: "Cooperation for a Christian Nation." Dr. E. C. Farnham, Executive Director of the Church Federation of Los Angeles, who was leader of the course, paid tribute to the early pioneers of Home Missions, to whom we are all indebted for the establishment of churches across our nation. But he pointed out that we must be "Again Pioneers" to make America and the world Christian. A grand over-all strategy must be planned for winning the world for Christ. "Home Missions" must become a part of it. It requires cooperation of ALL denominations, of ALL the churches in ALL of the communities, and of ALL the people in ALL the churches.

Mrs. Ludlow spoke of the pleasure of talking to some home missionaries, especially to the Rev. Edgar B. Smith who works with the Blackfeet Indians at Browning, Montana. Mr. Smith spoke also of the plight of the Indians at Elbowood, North Dakota, where a dam is going in and makes it imperative for the Indians to move everything, including their cemeteries.

Mrs. Lewis W. Taylor, our Foreign Field Secretary, reported on the foreign study theme which is "Japan." Dr. Willis C. Lamott, on the faculty of the San Francisco Theological Seminary at San Anselmo, was dean of the conference and leader of the course on "Japan." It has been 14 years since our churches have studied Japan. The country has changed radically in that time from a gentle country, eager to learn western ways, to a nation seeking POWER and TERRITORY, and now again to a docile, defeated nation.

In postwar Japan the World Christian Mission faces need and opportunity under circumstances that have no parallel in modern history, and the opportunity may vanish within a very few years. What will be the response of Christians in our country to this overwhelming challenge for their witness, fellowship, and service?

Mrs. Taylor told of the talk given at the conference by the Rev. Kiyoshi Tanimoto, a minister of Hiroshima, Japan. He told of his experiences during and after the disaster of the atomic bomb. He is working now to help make Hiroshima a memorial to the cause of World Peace, "in hopes that the atom bomb will never again be used for **destructive** purposes."

Our third delegate to the M.E.M. was Mrs. Gail Cleland, Literature Secretary, who gave us the story of the making of the "Study Books." For the study of Japan we have "Japan Begins Again," by Kerr, for adults, and "Which Way Japan," by Shacklock, and "The Seven Stars," by Toru Matsumoto, for young people but recommended for women too. "Where the Carp Banners Fly," "Toshio and Tama," and "Mitsu: A Little Girl of Japan," are the three books for Juniors, Primary and Beginners' departments respectively. Mrs. Cleland's comments on these make them sound most intriguing. Then there are the books for the study of our Home theme: "Missions at the Grass Roots," by Shriver, and "Again Pioneers," by Morse, for adults, "In the Direction of Dreams," by Violet Wood, for young people **and our women,** and then there are such nice story books for our younger readers: "Tumbleweed Boy" by Alston, "Blueberry Acres" by Kelsey, and "Sandy and Mr. Jalopy" by Edith Agnew. All these are good reading for everybody in the family.

The Schedule for Fall Association Rallies for Our Women

SANTA CLARA—Redwood City, Tuesday, Sept. 20.

REDWOOD EMPIRE—Sebastopol Wednesday, Sept. 21.

SACRAMENTO VALLEY—Paradise, Thursday, Sept. 22.

BAY—Berkeley, North, Tuesday, Sept. 27.

UPPER BAY—Pittsburg, Wednesday, Sept. 28.

CENTRAL—Angels Camp, Thursday, Sept. 29.

SAN JOAQUIN—Porterville, Saturday, Oct. 1.

The visiting team will consist of Mrs. E. B. Kientz, Federation President, Mrs. H. E. Walley, President of the National Fellowship of Congregational Christian Women, and at some of the Rallies, if not all, Miss Frances E. Clapp, American Board Missionary at the Doshisha University in Japan.

Miss Frances B. Clapp

The Rev. J. Hood Snavely, formerly pastor of an English-speaking church in Shanghai, but since August 1st pastor of the Berkeley Arlington Church, was speaker in the afternoon. He was introduced by Mrs. Harley H. Gill, First Vice-President of the Federation, and a member of the Berkeley Arlington Church.

Mr. Snavely said he had gone to China soon after his graduation from seminary with a feeling of hero-worship for Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, and he was shocked to find that there was no democracy in China, but a personal dictatorship of Chiang with a loosely held together feudalism. The liberals who wanted to see a real democracy could get nowhere with him so turned to the Communists. Mr. Snavely told us briefly why he felt China had gone Communist; what we can learn from what is taking place; and what we can do about it. He quoted the president of a Chinese Christian College as saying that the missionaries had made a real contribution in giving the young people a new spirit, but no program. The Communists have given the program and are doing what needs to be done but without a soul.

Mrs. Harlan E. Walley

Mrs. Vera S. Dickerson, sister of Mrs. L. D. Rathbone, gave a brief report from the Institute of International Relations held at Mills College in June, a most worthwhile conference. It was a great pleasure to have our Third Vice-President, Mrs. Dennis Goodsell, who made a plea for our denominational publication and for keeping in touch with our leadership and responsibilities.

SAN FRANCISCO, OCEAN VIEW—1949 is the 60th anniversary of this church, whose beginning was in a little village connected only by train with downtown San Francisco. At that time there were a few struggling stores, a school, and a series of wooden shacks. Cows, horses, chickens, and pigs roamed the hillsides. To the west, now Merced Heights, the hillsides were bare. Even the fire of 1906 scarcely stirred this community. In the last couple of years the area has filled up with new and attractive homes and is continuing to grow. The church hopes and expects to keep pace. Over $15,000 has been raised for a new building, to be located on a lot already purchased by the Conference, a half mile west of the old property. Rev. J. H. Bennett is giving strong leadership.

OAKLAND, FRUITVALE — Rev. Ernest M. Fowler, pastor of this church, is the president of the Oakland Ministerial Fellowship and is religious editor for the Oakland Tribune.

SACRAMENTO, PIONEER — A The Pacific goes to press the Sacramento Centennial is under way, wit Lawrence Wilson, former pasto preaching on home-coming Sunday the 11th, Prof. Harry Tyler givin the address at the home-coming dinner on the 13th, President Ronal Bridges speaking at the anniversar dinner on the 16th, and Supt. Harle H. Gill, who was pastor at the tim the present building was erected, giving the anniversary sermon on th 18th. Mr. David H. Gill, presiden of the Conference Board of Director is chairman of the Centennial Committee.

SAN LORENZO—The addition t the parsonage is practically complete A Student Summer Service team assisted Rev. Homer Schwarz with Vacation Bible Schools, enrolling 22 pupils. The church adopted a new set of by-laws with a board of director of nine people, representing the head of seven departments: worship, education, church extension, house administration and property management, music, public relations, and drama and pageantry, plus representatives of the men's and women associations.

SOQUEL — The Little White Church in the Vale has maintained steady growth, particularly in the Church School, with enrollment more than doubled and average attendance more than 80% of the enrollment. Average summer attendance has been high. Under the leadership of Rev T. Davis Preston the seventh annual summer camp for children was conducted during two weeks in July Nancy Lawrence and Phil Brink, Student Summer Service workers, assisted. A new dining room and kitchen were built on the camp grounds this year.

SAN JOSE—The Strategy Committee reported to the 74th birthday dinner, recommending the finding of three new locations for Congregational churches in the San Jose area. The church participates in the Centennial Fund to the extent of more than $1,000. A nursery room has been decorated and furnished by the young adult group. Rev. Stephen C. Peabody is pastor.

CAMPBELL—Rev. Corwin H. Old is leading his people in a careful study of the growth of the community, on location of the church and what opportunities and responsibilities the future is likely to present. The whole matter will come before the congregation on September 21.

HAYWARD—Progress on the new building is being made, although a jurisdictional strike held up the roofing for a short time. About eighty-five new members have been added since the first of January. Rev. Richard C. Norberg is pastor.

PARLIER — This church united with two others in the community in the conduct of a Daily Vacation Bible School. Rev. G. S. Farajian is pastor

PRAYER FOR FREEDOM

The following prayer before the State Assembly by Rev. Torrance Phelps, the chaplain, drew editorial comment in the Los Angeles Times and other papers. Following the prayer forty members voted down a resolution to investigate any person or organization seeking the repeal of Article 25 of the State Constitution.

"God of Liberty, may we hear today the universal demand for a freed world issuing from the lips of all the oppressed and irrepressible within our own hearts. Let us demand a world where men are free to express their opinions without the threat of intimidation. A world where the agencies of publicity, the press and the radio, are never controlled by merely selfish interests and a world where the masses of the people can learn the ungarbled facts. Let us be warned by the police states which suppress freedom and stifle their own genius and progress. May the Goddess of Liberty ever stand before us without a padlock on her lips. Amen."